

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 NEA-10 OMB-01 DRC-01 /166 W

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R 241432Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3241

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONGEN STUTTGART

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS KAMPALA 3196

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR PINS UG US XF

SUBJECT: GENERAL AMIN ANNOUNCES CREATION OF A CIVIL DEFENSE
FORCE COMPOSED OF THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED TO FIGHT
IN MIDDLE EAST

1. AT MIDDAY ON OCTOBER 23 GENERAL AMIN ADDRESSED A CROWD
NUMBERING 6000 (ACCORDING TO THE PRESS) WHO HAD REGISTERED AS
VOLUNTEERS TO GO AND FIGHT ALONGSIDE THEIR ARAB "BROTHERS" IN
THE MIDDLE EAST. THE GENERAL ANNOUNCED THAT INSTEAD OF GOING
TO THE MIDDLE EAST THEY WOULD BE FORMED INTO A CIVIL DEFENSE
FORCE. TRAINING FACILITIES ARE TO BE PROVIDED FOR THEM AND
PRIORITY FOR ENLISTMENT IN THE NEW FORCE WILL BE GIVEN TO
UNEMPLOYED VOLUNTEERS. THE GENERAL PROMISED THEM "ALL SORTS
OF FRINGE BENEFITS DURING THEIR TRAINING PERIOD IN THESE CAMPS."
HE SAID THEY MIGHT LATER BE CALLED ON TO FIGHT FOR THE
LIBERATION OF AFRICAN TERRITORIES STILL UNDER COLONIAL RULE.

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2. AMIN WARNED THE AUDIENCE AGAINST BEING "CONFUSED BY

IMPERIALISTS LIKE AMERICANS WHO ARE ALWAYS OUT WITH THEIR CHEAP TACTICS TO CONFUSE THE WORLD. AMERICA, HE POINTED OUT, HAD MANAGED TO CONFUSE SOME ARAB COUNTRIES WITH A CEASE-FIRE PLAN IN ORDER TO GIVE ISRAEL MORE TIME TO PLAN TO BEAT THE ARABS." THE GENERAL MENTIONED "REPORTS" THAT AMERICANS AND BRITISH WERE PLANNING A COMMANDO-TYPE ATTACK AGAINST UGANDA, AND SAID THAT HIS ARMED FORCES WERE "CAPABLE OF CRUSHING THE ENEMY COMPLETELY." HE CALLED ON UGANDANS "TO GUARD AGAINST IMPERIALISTS WHO COME TO THE COUNTRY TO CONFUSE PEOPLE. SUCH PEOPLE, HE ADVISED, MUST BE REPORTED TO THE AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY IF FOUND OUT."

3. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SOME UGANDANS HAVE "TURNED INTO SUCH HEAVY DRUNKARDS THAT THEY EVEN DO NOT KNOW WHEN NEWS IS BROADCAST OVER RADIO UGANDA. STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF RADIO NEWS, THE PRESIDENT OBSERVED THAT IN CASE OF A SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE COUNTRY, MANY OF THE DRUNKARDS WOULD BE TRAPPED IN BARS TO FACE THE UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES."

4. AFTER ANNOUNCING THE NEWS THAT ETHIOPIA HAD BROKEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, AMIN DECLARED THAT THIS WAS THE LAST STRAW THAT WOULD BREAK THE CAMEL'S BACK.
KEELEY

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